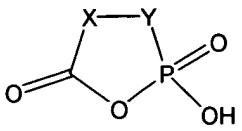
Amendments to the Claims:

This claim listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim Listing:

1.-4. Cancelled

5. (Original) A β-lactamase inhibitor of Formula *II*:



(*II*)

wherein Y is O or alkylene, and X is alkylene, cycloalkylene, fused heterocycle, heteroarylene, or arylene, wherein the alkylene, cycloalkylene, fused heterocycle, heteroarylene, and arylene groups may be optionally substituted; provided that X is not phenylethene.

6. (Original) The inhibitor according to claim 5, wherein X is a fused carbocyclic, heterocyclic, aromatic, or heteroaromatic ring.

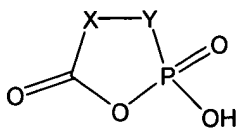
7. (Original) The inhibitor according to claim 6, wherein X is phenylene.

8.-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12.-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a β-lactamase inhibitor of Formula *II*:



(*II*)

wherein Y is O or alkylene, and X is alkylene, cycloalkylene, fused heterocycle, heteroarylene, or arylene, wherein the alkylene, cycloalkylene, fused heterocycle, heteroarylene, and arylene groups may be optionally substituted; and

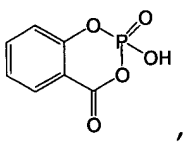
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.

17. (Original) The composition according to claim 16, wherein X is a fused carbocyclic, heterocyclic, aromatic, or heteroaromatic ring.

18. (Original) The composition according to claim 17, wherein X is phenylene.

19.-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a β -lactamase inhibitor having the structure:



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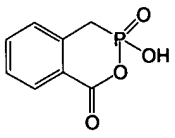

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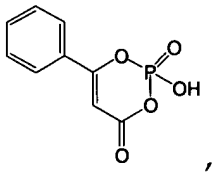


, and salts thereof; and

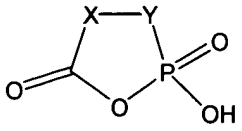
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.

23. (Previously Presented) The composition according to any one of claims 16, or 22 further comprising an antibiotic agent.

24. (Original) The composition according to claim 23, wherein the antibiotic agent is a β-lactam antibiotic.

25.-50. (Cancelled)

51. (New) A method for inhibiting ß-lactamase activity, comprising administering a ß-lactamase inhibitor of Formula ***II***:



(*II*)

wherein Y is O or alkylene, and X is alkylene, cycloalkylene, fused heterocycle, heteroarylene, or arylene, wherein the alkylene, cycloalkylene, fused heterocycle, heteroarylene, and arylene groups may be optionally substituted.

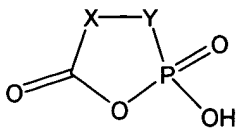
52. (New) The method according to claim 51, wherein X is a fused carbocyclic, heterocyclic, aromatic, or heteroaromatic ring.

53. (New) The method according to claim 52, wherein X is phenylene.

54. (New) The method according to any one of claims 51, further comprising an antibiotic agent.

55. (New) The method according to claim 54, wherein the antibiotic agent is a ß-lactam antibiotic.

56. (New) A method for inhibiting bacterial growth, comprising administering a ß-lactamase inhibitor of Formula *II*:



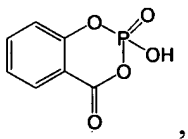
(*II*)

wherein Y is O or alkylene, and X is alkylene, cycloalkylene, fused heterocycle, heteroarylene, or arylene, wherein the alkylene, cycloalkylene, fused heterocycle, heteroarylene, and arylene groups may be optionally substituted.

57. (New) The method according to claim 56, wherein X is a fused carbocyclic, heterocyclic, aromatic, or heteroaromatic ring.

58. (New) The method according to claim 57, wherein X is phenylene.

59. (New) A method for inhibiting bacterial growth, comprising administering a ß-lactamase inhibitor selected from the group consisting of:



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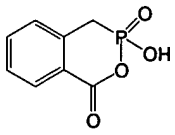

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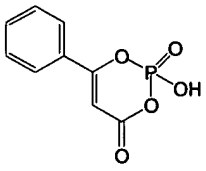

, and salts thereof.

60. (New) The method according to any one of claims 56 or 59, further comprising an antibiotic agent.

61. (New) The method according to claim 60, wherein the antibiotic agent is a ß-lactam antibiotic.